



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, January 29, 2016

Electricity

Update: Dominion's 1,130 MW Millstone Nuclear Unit 3 in Connecticut Restarts, Ramps Up to 16 Percent by January 29

The unit shut from full power on January 25 due to a reactor coolant pump trip.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2016/20160125en.html>

Update: Exelon's 1,163 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois at Full Power by January 29

On the morning of January 28 the unit was operating at 77 percent, reduced from full power on January 28.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Update: Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois at Full Power by January 29

On the morning of January 28 the unit was operating at 70 percent, reduced from full power on January 27.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Entergy's 1,207 MW Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit 1 in Mississippi Reduced to 74 Percent by January 29

On the morning of January 28 the unit was operating at 97 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

NRC Extends Operating License for Exelon's 2,389 MW Braidwood, Illinois Nuclear Power Plant January 27

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Wednesday approved Braidwood Generating Station's 20-year license renewal application. The license for unit 1 has been extended until 2046 and unit 2 has been extended until 2047.

<http://www.exeloncorp.com/newsroom/nrc-approves-braidwood-generating-station-operating-license>

Petroleum

California Energy Commission Reports Crude by Rail Down 69 Percent in 2015

Oil-by-rail shipments to California fell 69 percent last year compared with 2014, according to California Energy Commission data released on Thursday. The commission said California received 1,762,369 barrels of crude via train last year, or 4,828 b/d, down from 5,737,081 barrels in 2014, or 15,718 b/d. The tally fell throughout the year, starting at a high of 11,061 b/d in January to 949 b/d in December, the data showed. The CEC data shows that most 2015 crude shipments to California came from New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, and Utah shipments stopped in July. The state has not received rail shipments of North Dakota Bakken crude since October 2014, and none from Canada since August 2014.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=50858

PBF Reports Flaring at Its 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery January 29

PBF Energy Inc on Friday reported flaring throughout the day at its Delaware City refinery, according to a community information phone line.

Reuters, 10:51 January 29, 2016

Motiva Reports Emissions at Its 603,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery January 29

Motiva Enterprises LLC reported emissions at its Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reuters, 1:13 January 29, 2016

Petrobras Reports FCCU Returns to Normal Operations at Its 100,000 b/d Pasadena, Texas Refinery January 28

Petrobras said process instability stopped the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) at its Pasadena, Texas refinery on January 28. The FCCU issue was corrected, the unit was returned to operations the same day, and production was not affected. The company also reported emissions at the refinery on January 28, though it did not specify the cause or if it was related to the FCCU malfunction.

Reuters, 3:10 January 29, 2016

Tesoro Reports Crude Unit Startup at Its 166,000 b/d Martinez, California Refinery January 28

Tesoro Corp on Friday reported a crude unit startup at its Martinez, California refinery after it was shutdown on January 28.

Reuters, 12:19 January 29, 2016

NuStar Plans to Bring 1.2 Million Barrels of Storage Online in 2016

NuStar Energy LP today said it will complete construction on 1.2 million barrels of storage scheduled to come online in 2016. The projects will benefit both its pipeline and storage segments and are associated with the upper Midwest pipeline project and St. James storage expansion. The company said it expects to bring online its two 360,000 barrel storage tanks at its St. James, Louisiana, terminal by mid-2016. In October, the company completed projects that connected Oakville to Corpus Christi via a 16-inch crude oil pipeline. In August, the company completed a 400,000 barrel crude storage project at its Corpus Christi North Beach terminal.

Reuters, 11:00 January 29, 2016

Pipeline Spills 300 Barrels of Oil, Saltwater in North Dakota January 29 – State Health Department

North Dakota State Health Department officials on Thursday reported a pipeline leak in Billings County spilled about 300 barrels of oil and saltwater, a byproduct of oil production. The spill happened at a site operated by White Rock Oil and Gas. About 50 barrels of the oil and saltwater ended up in Franks Creek. Officials with the Health Department and state Oil and Gas Division were investigating.

http://www.ndhan.gov/data/mrNews/2016-01-29-OilBrineSpillBillingsCo_FINAL.pdf

Reuters, 1:16 January 29, 2016

Oil Drillers Cut Rigs for Sixth Straight Week – Baker Hughes

U.S. energy firms cut oil rigs for the sixth straight week, Baker Hughes Inc data showed on Friday. Drillers removed 12 oil rigs in the week ended January 29, bringing the rig count down to 498, the least since March 2010, according to Baker Hughes.

Reuters, 1:07 January 29, 2016

Update: CPUC Considering Permanent Closure of SoCalGas' Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Field in California after Massive Methane Leak

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is studying the effects of permanently shutting down Southern California Gas Co's (SoCalGas) Aliso Canyon natural gas field near Porter Ranch after it began leaking methane on October 23, 2015. The commission is investigating whether SoCalGas can find alternative storage sites and delivery systems to make up for a possible shortfall of gas should the 3,600-acre field be taken off-line in the future. The company operates four underground storage fields in Southern California with a combined "working gas" capacity of about 136 billion cubic feet. Aliso Canyon is the largest with a working gas capacity of 86.2 billion cubic feet. The facility has 115 wells and on January 27 the company said it would temporarily plug 18 of the older wells until they are inspected. The utility will determine if the wells will resume service or be permanently plugged and taken out of service following inspections.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-puc-probing-permanent-closure-of-aliso-canyon-gas-field>

<http://www.dailynews.com/general-news/20160127/socalgas-will-inspect-18-older-gas-wells-at-aliso-canyon>

DCP Midstream Reports Flaring at Its 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas January 28

DCP Midstream reported residue gas that is sold had higher hydrogen sulfide concentrations than customer specifications so the gas was routed to the flare. During the startup of the unit, one of the turbines had a high pressure differential across a strainer that initiated a unit shutdown. The shutdown of the turbine increased pressure above the set point to the valve that controls gas to the emergency flare. The strainer to the turbine was being cleaned out to reduce the pressure differential across the strainer.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=226825>

Natural Gas Output Declines for Second Month in U.S. Lower 48 States – EIA

Natural gas output in the lower 48 states fell to 81.8 Bcf/d in November from 81.9 Bcf/d in October, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) said in its monthly production report on Friday. That would be the second consecutive monthly decline for the lower 48 states. Gas production in November was up 4 percent from year-earlier levels of 78.7 Bcf/d, the EIA said.

Reuters, 12:48 January 29, 2016

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Pipeline in Iraq's Kurdistan Region Attacked, Knocking Out Electricity Supply January 29

A pipeline for gas used to generate around half the electricity in Iraq's northern Kurdistan region was blown up on Friday, knocking out power, a police chief and electricity official told Reuters. The explosion struck the pipeline in the Qader Karam district of Kirkuk, according to the police chief, who said it was caused by two homemade bombs. The pipeline feeds gas from the Khor Mor field to two power plants in the Erbil and Sulaimaniyah provinces of the Kurdistan region, which already suffers from electricity shortages. The head of electricity distribution in Kurdistan said the blast had initially reduced the region's total electricity supply to around 400 MW from 2,850 MW, but authorities later managed to return it to around 2,000 MW by drawing on other sources.

Reuters, 1:53 January 29, 2016

Karachi, Pakistan Hit by Major Power Breakdown January 29

A major power breakdown on Friday left 90 percent of Karachi, Pakistan's largest city with a population of 23 million, without electricity. K-Electric, the private utility company running the electricity supply, said high levels of humidity tripped a transmission line to cause the blackout on Friday morning. This was the third major outage in Pakistan in a month.

Reuters, 4:54 January 29, 2016

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices January 29, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	33.61	32.02	43.47
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	2.12	2.20	2.89

Source: Reuters

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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